

What is claimed is:

1. A zoom lens system comprising, in order from an object side, a first lens group having a positive refracting power and a second lens group having a negative refracting power, magnification being changed from a wide-angle end to a telephoto end by moving the first and second lens groups toward the object side and by reducing an interval between the first and second lens groups, said first lens group comprising, in order from the object side:

a first lens having a negative refracting power, a concave surface of said first lens being directed to the object side;

a second lens having a positive refracting power;  
a third lens having a negative refracting power; and  
a fourth lens having a positive refracting power,  
wherein said zoom lens system satisfies the following conditions:

$-2.7 < f_s/f_1 < -1.7$   
 $-1.1 < f_1/f_2 < -0.9$

where  $f_s$  denotes a focal length of the zoom lens system at the wide-angle end,  $f_1$  denotes a focal length of the first lens, and  $f_2$  denotes a focal length of the second lens.

2. A zoom lens system according to claim 1, wherein the following condition is further satisfied:

$1.0 < r_1/f_1 < 3.0$

where  $r_1$  denotes a radius of curvature regarding the object side of said first lens.

3. A zoom lens system according to claim 2, wherein the following condition is further satisfied:

5            $N_1 > N_2$

where  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are refractive indexes of the first lens and the second lens respectively.

4. A zoom lens system according to claim 1, wherein both surfaces of the second lens are convex surfaces,  
10 and at least one of the surfaces is an aspheric glass lens.

5. A zoom lens system according to claim 4, wherein said second lens has a refractive index of 1.6 or more.

6. A zoom lens system according to claim 1, wherein  
15 said third lens and said fourth lens are a cemented lens.

7. A zoom lens system according to claim 6, wherein said third and fourth lenses satisfy the following conditions:

$\nu_3 < \nu_4$

20            $N_3 > N_4$

where  $\nu_3$  and  $\nu_4$  denote Abbe numbers of the third lens and the fourth lens respectively, and  $N_3$  and  $N_4$  denote refractive indexes of the third lens and the fourth lens respectively.

25           8. A zoom lens system according to claim 1, wherein said second lens group comprises, in order from the object side:

a fifth lens having a positive refracting power; and  
a sixth lens having a negative refracting power.

9. A zoom lens system according to claim 8, wherein  
an Abbe number of said fifth lens is 40 or more.

5        10. A zoom lens system according to claim 8, wherein  
said fifth lens is a plastic lens.